

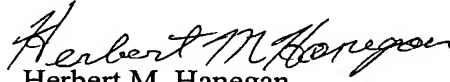
REMARKS

Although applicants do not agree with the Examiner's rejections, claims 1-15 and 20-39 have been cancelled without prejudice in order to advance this case to issuance.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 16-19. Claims 16-18 have been amended to be independent and include the limitations of the base claim and intervening claim. Claim 19 has not been amended since as filed it was dependent upon claim 16.

In view of the above amendment and remarks reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 16-19 is respectfully requested and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,


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MARKED UP COPY OF THE CLAIMS

In the claims:

Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

16. (Currently amended) ~~The superconducting cable of claim 11,~~ A cable employing an oxide superconductor, comprising:

_____ a flexible core member;

_____ a plurality of tape-shaped oxide superconducting wires being laid on said core member with tension of not more than 2 kgf/mm² wherein each tape-shaped superconducting wire consists essentially of an oxide superconductor and a stabilizing metal covering the same,

_____ said plurality of tape-shaped superconducting wires forming a plurality of layers each being formed by laying a plurality of said tape-shaped superconducting wires in a side-by-side manner,

_____ said plurality of layers being successively stacked on said core member without an insulating layer between the plurality of layers and the core member,

_____ said core member providing said superconducting cable with flexibility,

_____ said superconducting cable capable of maintaining a superconducting state at the temperature of liquid nitrogen,

_____ said wires having substantially homogeneous superconducting phases along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

_____ the c-axes of said superconducting phases being oriented substantially in parallel with the direction of thickness of said wire,

_____ said superconducting wires being formed by grains aligned in parallel extending along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

said grains being stacked along the direction of thickness of said wire,

further including at least two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers wherein the at least two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers carries approximately equal amounts of the current flowing through the cable.

17. (Currently amended) ~~The superconducting cable of claim 11,~~ A cable employing an oxide superconductor, comprising:

a flexible core member;

a plurality of tape-shaped oxide superconducting wires being laid on said core member with tension of not more than 2 kgf/mm² wherein each tape-shaped superconducting wire consists essentially of an oxide superconductor and a stabilizing metal covering the same,

said plurality of tape-shaped superconducting wires forming a plurality of layers each being formed by laying a plurality of said tape-shaped superconducting wires in a side-by-side manner,

said plurality of layers being successively stacked on said core member without an insulating layer between the plurality of layers and the core member,

said core member providing said superconducting cable with flexibility,

said superconducting cable capable of maintaining a superconducting state at the temperature of liquid nitrogen,

said wires having substantially homogeneous superconducting phases along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

the c-axes of said superconducting phases being oriented substantially in parallel with the direction of thickness of said wire,

said superconducting wires being formed by grains aligned in parallel extending along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

said grains being stacked along the direction of thickness of said wire,
further including at least two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers wherein the first of the two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers carries greater than 50 percent of the current flowing through the cable.

18. (Currently amended) ~~The superconducting cable of claim 11,~~ A cable employing an oxide superconductor, comprising:

a flexible core member;
a plurality of tape-shaped oxide superconducting wires being laid on said core member with tension of not more than 2 kgf/mm² wherein each tape-shaped superconducting wire consists essentially of an oxide superconductor and a stabilizing metal covering the same,

said plurality of tape-shaped superconducting wires forming a plurality of layers each being formed by laying a plurality of said tape-shaped superconducting wires in a side-by-side manner,

said plurality of layers being successively stacked on said core member without an insulating layer between the plurality of layers and the core member,

said core member providing said superconducting cable with flexibility,

said superconducting cable capable of maintaining a superconducting state at the temperature of liquid nitrogen,

said wires having substantially homogeneous superconducting phases along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

the c-axes of said superconducting phases being oriented substantially in parallel with the direction of thickness of said wire,

said superconducting wires being formed by grains aligned in parallel extending along the longitudinal direction of said wire,

said grains being stacked along the direction of thickness of said wire,

further including at least two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers wherein the second of the two distinct groups of tape-shaped wire layers carries greater than 50 percent of the current flowing through the cable.

19. (Original) The superconducting cable of claim 16, wherein the group of tape-shaped wire layers furthest from the core member provides shielding of the current flowing through the other layers and reduces magnetic fields or eddy currents in the cable.

Claims 20-39 (cancelled).